

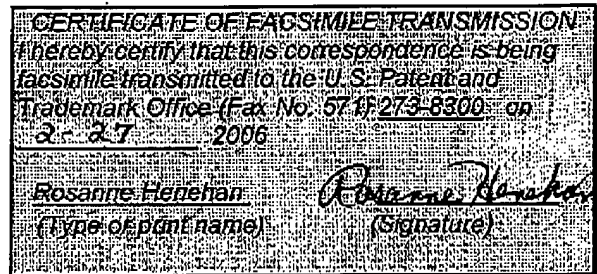
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application:)
Hart, et al.)
U.S. Serial No.: 10/612,631)
Filed: July 2, 2003)
For: INTERLOCKING SUTURE CLINCH)

Customer No.: 21378
Docket No.: A-2202-AL
Art Unit: 3731

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Dear Sir/Madam:



Attached please find the following documents submitted for filing in reference to the above-referenced application.

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form SB/08a (1 page);
3. PTO Form SB/08b (1 page);
4. Cited Reference (International Search Report and Written Opinion); and
5. Transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne Henehan
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Applied Medical Resources

CUSTOMER NO.: 21378

Telephone (949) 713-8000
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PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

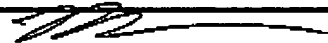
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/812,631	
	Filing Date	July 2, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Charles C. Hart	
	Art Unit	3731	
	Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary	
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	12	Attorney Docket Number	A-2202-AL

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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO Form SB/08a; PTO Form SB/08b; Cited Reference (International Search Report and Written Opinion).
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	PATRICK Y. IKEHARA
Signature	
Date	2-27-2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Rosanne Henehan
Signature	
Date	2-27-06

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:
Hart, et al.

Customer No. 21378

Serial No. 10/612,631

Attorney's Docket: A-2202-AL

Filed: July 2, 2003
For: INTERLOCKING SUTURE CLINCH

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b, which lists information which may be relevant to the prosecution of the above-captioned application. It is requested that this information be considered by the Office.

This Statement is being submitted under the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). The information is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), it is understood that filing of the Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information submitted is material to patentability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any over-payment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-2215.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick Y. Ikehara
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,681

Date: February 27 2006

Customer No. 21378
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Approved for use through 07/31/2008, OMB 0851-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/612,631
Filing Date	July 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Charles C. Hart
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary
Attorney Docket Number	A-2202-AL

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 608. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/612,631
		Filing Date	July 2, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Charles C. Hart
		Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number A-2202-AL	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY, International Search Report and Written Opinion, for PCT/US04/12484, mailed February 3, 2006.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.88. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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